Ralders earn award



Pompon champs: North Farmington High School's pompon squad was named grand champion in competi-tion July 21 at Grand Valley State University. The team members are (front row, left to right) Kelly Brickner, Jenna Scotti, co-captain Janet Pien, Tobi Cohen, Wakisa Mwaungulu, co-captain Sarah Plafchan, Annette Gajda, (back row, from left) Julie Artinian, Lauren Malatesta, Stacey Cohen and Stephanie Rosen. Not pic-

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Compuware girls 9th in ASA event

Compuware finished in a three-way tie for ninth place in the 76-team Amateur Softball Association 16-and-under girls national fastpitch tournament at Founders Park in Farmington

national fastpitch tournament at Founders Park in Farmington Hills.

Compuware won six of its first seven games before losing a second time late Saturday to the Kansas City Lusers in 10 innings, 2-1.

The international tiebreaker rule was used to decide the game. The Lasers secred twice in the top of the 10th.

Compuware's Emily LaBardoubled to score Andrea Hillsey in the bottom half but was out trying to stretch her hit into a triple.

Lauren Fuerstanau, who won three of five games, was the losing pitcher. Compuware had just three hits, including one each by Jossica Beech and Angie Balconi. Compuware opened tournament play Aug. 4 with a 3-1 victory over the Indiana Impact. Hillsey was 2-for-2 and Beech, Erin Ballinger and Lisa Copeland scored the runs while Fuerstanau tossed a four-hitter. The team followed with a pair of 2-0 wins over the Salanis (Calif.) Storm Aug. 5 and the Virginia Shamrocks Aug. 6.

Jessica Berubsker allowed only three hits over 6 1/3 innings against the Storm Beech had to bits and Maria D'Agostino an Ril.

an RBI.

In the first game of the elimination round, Fuerstanau hurled a one-hitter at the Shamrocks. Beech (triple) and Hillsey (double) had two hits each; LaBar had an RBI.

Booch went 4-for-4 with an

Booch went 4-for-4 with an RBI as Compuware edged the

SOFTBALL

Lehigh Valloy (Pa.) Flames on Friday, 3-2.
Hillsey, had another two-hit game, and D'Agostino and Emily Nimke, the winning pitcher in relief of Brubaker, contributed RBI singles.
Compuware suffered its first loss Saturday when the Southern California Athletics cked out a 2-1 win.
Meliesa Wilson was 2-for-3 with an RBI for Compuware, which scored in the bottom of the account and had the tying run thrown out at the plate.
In the second of four straight games Saturday, Compuware defeated the Washington Merchents in 10 innings, 2-1.
With the tibbreaker rule in use gain, Ballinger started the bottom of the 10th on second base but was out at third on Wilson's bunt.
Wilson was ascrificed to second by Julie Houck and scored the winning run, on Beech's double.
Hillsey and Wilson were 2-for-

ble.
Hillsey and Wilson were 2-for3. Fuerstanau was the winning

3. Fuerstanau was the winning pitcher.
Without time for a break, Compaware improved its record to 6-1 by defeating the Arizona Hotahots, 1-0.
Brubaker pitched a two-hitter over seven innings to earn the win. Hillary (2-for-3) scored the lone run on Balconi's sacrifice fly.
The fourth consecutive game resulted in a loss to the Lasers.
Compaware made only one error in eight games and finished the season with a 42-7 record.

Shock fans start young with help from mom

Anina Cicerone loves the new Detroit Shock of the Women's National Basketball Association, but you get the idea her favorite guard of all-time lives under the same roof.

Cicerone is the daughter of Birmingham Marian girls basketball conch Mary Lillie-Cicerone, who in her playing days starred at point guard for the University of Detroit.

Lillie-Cicerone had Anina outfitted in a Shock jersey with the name and number, of forward Cindy Brown, the WNBA's leading robounder, on the back at Wednesday's gume against Los Angeles at the Palace.

Every parent's entitled to a little brain washing. How many little kids can pronounce the names of Shock star guards Sandy Brondello and Korie Hiede, anyway?

"I like Cindy Brown – because she's on the back of my shirt," said 7-year-old Anina.

So Lillie-Cicerone is still the best guard Anina knows, but her three-year-old briother Russell is a harder sell. The Shock players and his mother take a back seat to someone else.

"I like Michael Jordan," Russell sial, Ah, give him time.

Although the Shock appear to

sell said.

Ah, give him time.
Although the Shock appear to be forming a strong fan base, even among the tiniest of people, Anina apparently still gives her most allegiance to her mother's high school team.

But it might help to have a mascot like the Shock's Zap to keep her company at Marian games.

games.
"Sho's still more of a Marian
fan," said Lillie-Cicerone, who
has two Shock season tickets.
'But it's hard to keep her interest the whole time. She's usually
in the hallway playing."
Shock couch Nancy Lieber-

man-Cline has her son, 4-year-old T.J., already talking politically correct.

"All of them are my favorite," said T.J., standing off to the side of the court with some family friends while his mother was coaching.

T.J. must have been glad to hear his mom's team won on this night.

conching.

T.J. must have been glad to hear his mom's team won on this night.

When she loses, she's in a bad, bad, bad mood. T.J. said.

High school girls basketball coaches and sold players are among the shool girls basketball coaches and sold players are among the shool girls basketball coaches and sold players are among the shool players are the shool players.

There is the group of Bosnian mon, dubbed the "Baseline Bosnians," who bring their native land's flag along to cheer for their country's representative of the country's representative for their country's representative for their country's representative and shool before the shool by the shool by the broad with a friend. Her brother, Shawn, who has played for three NBA teams, seemed intrigued by the thought of attending a WNBA game, she said, but he passed on the invitation.

"He told me That's good, pay close attention to how they play," said Regina, a player at Oberlin College in Ohio. "It's like studying, I want to take a few pointers back."

A group of grown women sitting behind one basket were having fun not acting their age. Alisa Collins, 31, Jackie Bass, 32, and Tracey Johnson, 30, ali of Detroit, arrived with signs in hand.

These girls have a blast, whether the Shock win or loss.

"This is for us," Johnson said. "Pistons watch out. This is here to stay. You can actually talk to the coaches and players. They're not hiding from you."

Shock from page C1

Of course, with their basket-ball inackground, neither could mass up the opportunity to try out for the Shock in the spring. Clang got to see how close she is to playing shape, matching up not in informal workouts against Nancy Lieberman-Cline, the Shock coach and one of the most popular woman players

most popular woman players ever.
"I was very lucky to get to play with Nancy and I was matched up with her every time," she said. "I don't know if she was taking it easy on me but I held

my own."
Rogers' best sport in high school was softball. She made all-state honors and turned down Division I college offers to play basketball for Division II WSU.

Porhaps she'll try out for a

Perhaps she'll try out for a women's professional softball team should one come to Detroit. Well, moybe not. "My true love was basketball." said Rogers, who also carned a master's degree from WSU. "It didn't come casy, and I knew I could keep getting botter at it."